

**R e m a r k s**

As suggested by the Examiner, applicants have rewritten the abstract of the disclosure.

The Examiner objected to the specification on the basis that it contains an embedded hyperlink. In response, applicants have deleted such a hyperlink from the specification.

Claims 1-33, 35-41 and 46-60 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by Ahmad. Applicants have amended base claims 1, 20, 32 and 46. Claims 2, 9, 10, 15, 16, 19, 21, 47, 56, 57 and 60 have also been amended to properly reference the amended base claims. Claims 6-8, 11, 30, 31, 42-45 and 51 have been cancelled.

The invention is directed to a technique for accessing information segments, e.g., news video clips, from a remote database. In accordance with the invention, a user may utilize a device (e.g., a personal computer, TV, media player, etc.) to select news video clips from the database through a communications network, and is allowed to specify the order in which the selected video clips are to be presented to the user for personal viewing. To that end, as the user searches the database for desired news video clips, the user is allowed to place indicators representative of the selected video clips in a buffer, referred to as a "virtual cart." After the user finishes with the selections, the indicators in the virtual cart most likely is arranged in the order of the selections of the corresponding video clips. However, the user may not want to view the selected video clips in that selection order. To personalize his/her own news program, the user is allowed to rearrange the order of the indicators in the virtual cart to customize the sequence of the corresponding news video clips to be presented to him/her. *See* page 13, line 13 *et seq.* of the specification.

Ahmad discloses a technique for providing, among others, primary information and related primary information to a user. In Ahmad, a user who is viewing primary information, e.g., a news program, may access GUI 200 where related primary information is represented by thumbnails in related primary information region 203. The thumbnails (203a, 203b, 203c and 203d) "identify segments of the primary information that are related to the primary information that is currently displayed." Col. 16, line 56 *et seq.* of Ahmad. For example, in Fig. 2B the

related information region includes three single video images (or thumbnails) each representing a news story from the news program.

The realization of the thumbnails is disclosed at col. 17, line 9 *et seq.* of Ahmad as follows:

To enable display of thumbnails, primary information segments that are related to the primary information segment that is being displayed must be determined....

Identification of the relatedness of primary information segments can be accomplished by determining the degree of similarity between the primary information segment being displayed and each other primary information segment. The degree of similarity can be determined by any appropriate method such as, for example, relevance feedback. The use of relevance feedback to determine the similarity between two segments is discussed in more detail below....

(Emphasis added).

In the Office Action, the Examiner attempted to read the “thumbnails” and “related primary information region” in Ahmad on the claim terms “indicators” and “buffer,” respectively. *See* Office Action at page 6. However, in accordance with an aspect of the invention, the indicators stored in the buffer represent information segments “selected” by the “user,” as amended claims 1, 20 and 46 now recite. By contrast, the thumbnails in Ahmad represent information segments which are determined by the system (e.g., using the relevance feedback method) to be related to the information segment being displayed to the user.

In addition, in rejecting the claimed invention, the Examiner also relied on Ahmad’s disclosure on methods for summarization, enabling “an observer to quickly get an overview of the content of a particular segment or segments of information.” Col. 33, line 33 of Ahmad. Specifically, the Examiner relied on the following generic statement in Ahmad to support the rejections (*See* Office Action at page 4):

As can be appreciated the methods described above for manipulating audiovisual data to produce a summarized display of the audiovisual data can also be used, with appropriate modification (e.g., instead of producing a

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summary of the text data, the text data could be manipulated in some other desired fashion), to manipulate the audiovisual data for some other purpose, such as rearranging, editing, selectively accessing or searching the audiovisual data.


Col. 35, lines 45-52 of Ahmad.

Such a generic statement at best suggests rearranging audiovisual data in an information segment using the disclosed methods for summarization. It, however, does not teach or suggest "allowing [a] user to rearrange the sequence of the indicators in the buffer," representative of information segments, "to affect an order in which the ... information segments are to be presented to the user," as amended claim 1 also recites. In fact, nowhere does Ahmad teach or suggest allowing a user to rearrange the arrangement of thumbnails in the related primary information region whatsoever. Amended base claims 20, 32 and 46 include limitations similar to those of amended claim 1. As such, the claimed invention is not anticipated by Ahmad. Nor is it obvious from reading Ahmad. Thus, amended claims 1, 20, 32, and 46, together with their dependent claims, are patentable over Ahmad.

The Examiner also rejected claims 34 and 42-45 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being allegedly obvious over Ahmad in view of Herz. In any event, claim 34 is patentable by virtue of its dependency from amended claim 32, which is patentable for the reasons set forth above. Claims 42-45 have been cancelled.

In view of the foregoing, each of claims 1-5, 9, 10, 12-29, 32-41, 46-50 and 52-60, as amended, is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of these claims is requested and allowance of the application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully,

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